

# ❖The Lamoine Quarterly❖

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## And the Lamoine 150! Logo Winner is...



*Artist Lee Cline (center) is flanked by Lamoine 150! Co-chairs Cynthia Donaldson and Jo Cooper at the official unveiling of the new celebration logo on June 15, 2019*

*By Gordon Donaldson*

(Lamoine) On Saturday June 15 at High Noon, the logo that will be emblematic of the town's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday was unveiled at the Town Hall. Seven designs were submitted. They were reviewed by a panel of judges who had the difficult task of selecting one design as the "official Lamoine 150!" logo.

The judge's choice was submitted by Lamoine resident Lee Cline. Her design depicts the ocean and mountains as viewed from Lamoine and is reminiscent of the logo from the town's 125<sup>th</sup> celebration in 1995. It will appear on

publicity, posters, tee-shirts, road-race jerseys and the like through the town's year-long celebration, starting this September.

Lamoine 150! Co-chairs Jo Cooper and Cynthia Donaldson thanked all the artists who submitted designs: Cline, Phillip Dvorak, and Amy and Joy Zinke. They announced plans for using the design from each artist on postcards that will be mailed to all residents periodically listing upcoming Lamoine 150! events. Stay tuned for the first postcard in the next 4-5 weeks!

## Town Rejects Road Work Cost Share Program

(Lamoine) - An advisory vote during the 2019 School Budget Validation Referendum asked if voters wished to pursue the Maine DOT's Municipal Partnership Initiative program, where the town would pay up to \$500,000 in matching funds with the state for upgraded road repairs. Voter rejected the proposal 68 to 64.

Following the vote, the Board of Selectmen wrote to the town's State Representative and Senator to decry the conditions of the state owned roads that run through town. Route 184 and 204 are considered Priority 4 roads—the lowest priority in the State. As such, the prospect of a complete rebuild is pretty low. In the letter, the Selectmen suggested that the priority 4 roads deteriorate at an increasingly rapid rate because of the lack of adequate maintenance over the years.



## Tall Home Draws Complaints, Appeals



(Lamoine) - A new home at the corner of Marlboro Beach Road and Lupine Lane that began going up in the Spring drew immediate complaints from neighbors who contend that its height violates Lamoine's Building and Land use ordinance. Code Enforcement Officer Rebecca Albright responded to the first calls in early March that inquired about the building's height. Accompanied by Planning Board chair John Holt, Albright determined that the two story house with a full basement was less than 35-feet higher than the final ground grade on average, and was consistent with the building permit

application from which a permit was issued in December of 2018. The two returned to the site subsequent to the March measurement and came to the same determination.

Following the calculated height, neighbors Alan Moldawer and Richard Arnold filed an appeal of the Code Enforcement Officer's determination on May 2, 2019. Several others in the neighborhood subsequently joined the appeal in the following days. The Board of Appeals initially met on May 20, 2019 to consider the appeal application from the neighbors. That Appeals Board, in a

*The Maine Department of Transportation has begun work on the shoulders, ditches and culverts along Route 184. This section of Lamoine Beach Road is shown after some ditching work done in June 2019. The work has been modified to include some light paving on particularly rough sections of the state roads.*

typical case will make a series of determinations on whether a case can proceed. At the May meeting the board determined that it has jurisdiction on the matter and that Mr. Moldawer has standing, meaning he is eligible to file an appeal. Two meetings were spent on determining whether the appeal Mr. Moldawer was filed on time. The Appeals Board ruled that it had and has set a public meeting for September 25, 2019.

The home is owned by Thomas and Kathryn True and sits on a lot that was recently divided into condominiums. Over the past several years, the Trues had designed varying versions of a new home to replace a building that was dubbed the "Candy Cottage". No appeal was filed when the Code Enforcement Officer granted the permit in December 2018.

## Lightning Strike Starts Devastating Fire

(Lamoine) - A line of severe thunderstorms that moved through Downeast Maine on July 6 saw a Falcon Lane home take a direct hit from lightning. Dr. Richard Haff was dining his son and a friend when the lightning hit and the thunder banged simultaneously. A few minutes later smoke started appearing from light fixtures above. The used a fire extinguisher without success then fled the house and called 9-1-1. Thus started a long night for a lot of Hancock County Firefighters.

The first fire trucks arrived just 12-minutes from the call, which given the distance from the Lamoine Fire Station is a very good response time. The firefighters observed smoke puffing from every roof soffit in the main part of the 33-year old house overlooking the Skillings River. The conclusion was that fire was in the attic area, contained under the roof and starving for oxygen. Given there were only three firefighters on scene, the only immediate action was to train a hose on top of the roof to try to cool things down.

Within minutes the heat created a breach in the ceiling and the blaze got the oxygen it needed to fully engulf the area. The fire department met with the three people who were in the building and determined everyone had escaped safely.

Along with Lamoine, an automatic mutual aid agreement paged out Ellsworth, Hancock and Trenton. Incident command requested as much manpower at the scene as possible, as the early evening was extremely hot and humid, and the firefighting efforts quickly sapped those firefighters trying to reach the flames underneath the construction. The Hancock County firefighting community responded. By the time the fire was under control, fire personnel and tanker trucks had responded from Gouldsboro, Winter Harbor, Sullivan, Sorrento, Franklin, Eastbrook, Surry, Orland and Bar Harbor in addition to the four initial responding departments. Northern Light ambulance crews helped cool down hot firefighters and took one Surry firefighter to the hospital with symptoms of heat exhaustion.

During the firefighting effort, the



*Lamoine Fire Department Chief Engineer Chris Bean surveys the damage on the waterfront side of a Falcon Lane home the morning after fire destroyed nearly every room inside.*

Hancock Fire Department set up at hydrants at two location to fill tanker trucks. There were so many firefighters that the Eagle Point Road became too clogged with vehicles, and those cars and truck were moved to a nearby home to keep the road open for safe passage.

It was well after midnight when the fire was declared out. Lamoine's remaining crew left hoses laid out, knowing it was likely that the fire would rekindle. It did. Neighbors noticed flames in one corner of the building the next morning. That area was quickly extinguished, and the Lamoine crew cleaned up the hoses, tools and a lot of empty drinking water bottles from the scene and returned to the station to put all the gear back on the trucks.

Interestingly, one bedroom in the home sustained little damage on the inside. The door had been closed, and firefighters pushed back the flames from there effectively.

The homeowner has insurance and found temporary accommodations for the busy July 4th weekend.

## Land Donation Accepted, Another Pending

(Lamoine) - Voters swiftly approved acceptance of more than 41-acres of land bordering Blunt's Pond. The vote at the special town meeting of May 15th followed very brief questions of the Frenchman Bay Conservancy's Executive Director Aaron Dority who explained that the donations are coming from sisters Judith Whitcomb and Katherine Dudzienski. Their family has owned the land for decades. Along with the land donation comes a \$5,000 cash gift to the town to assist with stewardship of the property. It's not yet known when a final transaction will take place.

The land sits between Blunt's Pond and a large gravel pit owned and operated

by John W. Goodwin Jr. It contains a snowmobile trail maintained by the Frenchman Bay Riders Snowmobile Club, whose headquarters sit on land donated by the Whitcomb family to the town.

Meanwhile, the town has just received word from the Hartline Family which controls a corporation that owns several large tracts of land off Shore Road. The family tells town officials that they have started the process to transfer that land to Maine Coast Heritage Trust in order to preserve it. The land has public conservation easements already. Selectmen are expected to get more details in the coming months.

## Foreclosed Properties Sold

(Lamoine) - The town foreclosed on a record three properties for unpaid tax liens filed in 2017. All the properties have been sold as directed by the town meeting, while one property foreclosed upon the previous year is under an installment agreement which is nearly fulfilled.

Two of the foreclosed properties were pieces of land in the Bar Harbor Highlands Subdivision. One had belonged to an estate of a Massachusetts man who 25-years ago had purchased it back. It's believed to be undevelopable, so the Board of Selectmen notified the abutting landowners who both submitted bids. The winning bidders were Eugenia Kolkas and Eric Davidson and the special town meeting in May approved the sale. The other piece of land may be developable, and a Portland firm submitted the high bid and a special town meeting in June gave final approval to the sale.

An occupied home on Duckling Lane saw Selectmen enter an installment agreement with the former owner. She negotiated a deal with neighbors to sell the property, and Selectmen signed a release deed to accomplish the sale, collecting all money due under the installment agreement.

## Fire Department Auction is Aug. 2nd

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's firefighters are in the process of collecting donations for the annual fundraising auction. This year it'll be held a little earlier than usual, on Friday, August 2, 2019. The preview and silent auction will begin at 5PM at the Lamoine Consolidated School and the live bidding will begin at 6PM in the gym.

The Lamoine Historical Society will be selling refreshments during the evening.

Small items to donate for the auction can be dropped at the Lamoine Town Hall. To arrange for larger items to be picked up, call the town office at 667-2242 and speak with Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, who will also be the volunteer auctioneer.

## Town Budget in The Black for 2019

(Lamoine) - The bills for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 are still trickling in, but the town is expected to finish the year on a positive note. It did take a special town meeting vote in June to approve an emergency repair to the fire department ladder truck, and some tight road project budgeting for the spring, but the town stuck to the town meeting approved budget from March 2018.

While expenses were slightly less than what was budgeted, some revenues were significantly higher than planned. The town budgeted \$350,000 for excise tax collections which broke \$400,000 for the first time ever. Interest earned on investments and unpaid taxes were nearly \$20,000 over budget as well.

## New Speed Sign Deployed For Summer

(Lamoine) - A few times each month, the town gets complaints from neighbors to a number of roads about speeding vehicles. The town received a speed monitoring sign late last fall, and it was deployed once the temperatures stayed above freezing around the clock. It took a while.

The sign is controlled by a laptop computer which the Road Commissioner can program for the correct speed limit for where the sign is located. The first few days of deployment was a learning curve, as it was set up just north of the Town Hall in a 45-mile an hour zone, but giving warnings for a 35-MPH zone. Once the kinks were worked out, the correct warnings showed, and the sign started storing speed data.

Following complaints that Marlboro Beach Road had a lot of speeders



*The speed monitoring sign donated to the Town of Lamoine by the Maine Department of Transportation displays actual speed to traffic on Jordan River Road during “rush hour”*

the sign was set up there for a few weeks to record the actual speeds. Work will be done to analyze the average speed and times of the day when speeding seems to be the worst.

Town workers placed the sign on a trailer the fire department rarely used. The sign is battery powered, and the batteries charged by a solar panel.

## Planning Board Activity Slows to a Stop

(Lamoine) - For the first time in years, the Planning Board canceled a meeting, not because of bad weather, but because there were no permit applications on which to act. July’s Planning Board meeting will be held on August 5, 2019 instead. At that time the board will select a chair and secretary, and act on any business the might come in before the two week prior deadline.

The Planning Board did approve a pair of commercial building applications in May, including a large storage unit complex off Douglas Highway, and a small commercial addition to the Iron Slipper Farm horse complex.

The Planning Board also continues to work on an updated Shoreland Zoning Ordinance required by the State of Maine.

## Construction Activity Picks Up

(Lamoine) - After just one building permit in the first quarter of the year, Code Enforcement Officer Rebecca Albright saw business boom in the 2nd quarter. The following permits were issued:

#	Name	Project
2	Gordon, Kate	Garage
3	Workman, Alice	Deck
4	McKeage, John	Cabin
5	Leavitt, James	Garage
6	Racicot, Elizabeth	Deck
7	Harris, Mary Beth	RVs
8	Gordon, Kate	Garage
9	Gordon, Kate	Breezeway
10	Smith, Kenneth	Addition
11	Liberty, Alida	Dock
12	Lescynski, Henry	Residence
13	Bennett, Kevin	Cabin
14	Cervelli, Phyllis	Shed
15	Backman, Chris	Residence
16	Griffin, Tony	Roof/Deck
17	Bowman, Robert	RV-Temp
18	Hilt, Dana	Barn
19	Grenier, Walter	Residence
20	Sanborn, Reginald	Residence
21	Cohen, Chris	Deck
22	Liberty, Alida	Deck

Albright, who is also the Local Plumbing Inspector, also issued 6 Septic System permits, two with variances, and 8 internal plumbing permits during the quarter. The CEO/LPI is generally in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9am to 3pm It’s best to call the town hall at 667-2242 to make sure she will be in.

## Property Tax Rate Falls

(Lamoine) - Most property taxpayers in Lamoine should see a slightly smaller property tax bill when they’re mailed out this month. Between lower funding needs, higher expected revenue, and an increase in the assessed value, the town’s tax rate will fall from 11.2 mills to 10.9 mills. On a typical \$200,000 property, that translates to a \$60.00 reduction in the tax bill.

Lower capital expenditures and paving budgets helped cut the municipal budget by more than \$140,000. The town paved a relatively short road (a portion of Buttermilk Road), and the ladder truck purchase from the previous year was a one-time expense that was not duplicated for 2019/20.

The first half of the property tax bill is due on August 31, 2019, and the 2nd half is due on February 28, 2020. Voters set the interest rate for unpaid taxes at 9% for the fiscal year, the maximum allowed by law.

## Town Withholds Planning Commission Dues

(Ellsworth) - For the past several years, Lamoine has been a member of the Hancock County Planning Commission, but has not used many of its services. With word that the HCPC is dormant after the theft arrest of its executive secretary, the town has opted not to send in its dues for 2019. In fact, the HCPC has not sent out a bill for dues for the year. The Planning Board recommended to the Selectmen that unless the Commission becomes viable again, that dues should not be paid.

The town is also holding back \$700 for a funding request from the Open Door Recovery Center which went out of business in early July.

## Line Agreement to be Proposed

(Lamoine) - More than 20-years ago, the town instructed then attorney Tony Beardsley to come up with a line agreement for a piece of property near the corner of Shore Road and Lamoine Beach Road. The lot’s definition was never really well described. Neighboring landowner Marion McDevitt owns an abutting piece of property and recently settled an agreement with another abutter. She approached the town with a desire to determine the line between her property and the town lot. The Board of Selectmen agreed that might be a good idea and has informally asked a surveyor who is familiar with the area for a price to come up with an agreement. Any agreement will likely require a town meeting vote.

## Selectboard Cleans up Uncollectable Accounts

(Lamoine) - Agreeing that pursuing legal action against personal property taxes that are several years old would be unlikely to result in payment of anything other than legal bills, the Board of Selectmen agreed with declare that the taxes were uncollectible. The assessed owner, in one case, sold all his property in town, and in another case, the assessed property was not well defined.

The move means that all the past due property taxes for the years 2013/14, and 2015/16 have been collected or accounted for, and tax collector Jennifer Kovacs can closed the books.

Selectmen also agreed to give up pursuit of a 12-year old bill for demolition debris that it had paid to the City of Ellsworth generated by a resident who has never made restitution to the town.

## Animal Control Officer Highly Praised

(Lamoine) - After a massive search for two dogs who ran away from a kennel in Ellsworth, their owner had high praise for Lamoine Animal Control Officer Shannon Byers. She asked if we could write a story about it. We suggested that she do it in her own words—and here they are.

*By Christine Alvarado*

We are so fortunate in Lamoine to have a great Animal Control Officer in Shannon Wood Byers. Our two dogs, Macy and Zoe, were lost by an Ellsworth boarding kennel in April, while we were out of state on vacation. Shannon immediately responded and led the search for our dogs. She gave of her time and resources to search beyond Lamoine in surrounding Hancock County towns. Shannon has a remarkable talent for dealing with animals (and people). Local volunteers drove around for hours looking for the dogs. We received so many sightings while the dogs were lost that were crucial for their return to us. We would not have our girls back without Shannon and the local community. This was a horrific experience for the dogs. They were running scared and their survival instincts had kicked in. Family and friends immediately traveled to the area to search under the guidance of Shannon. The search and sightings of Macy and Zoe were well underway by the time we arrived home.

Macy, our golden doodle, ran from Ellsworth to Trenton. Best we can tell she traveled on roads, power-line clearings and the woods down Route 1, Douglas Highway, over to Buttermilk and Route 3. Macy had found a spot in the woods on Route 3 in Trenton, where she had somewhat settled. Macy even ran from her family as she was so scared and had reverted to survival mode. With guidance from Shannon and help from family and friends, we set up food stations and patiently waited for Macy to recognize that 'this is my family'. Macy, extremely hesitant, watched us, came to us, ran from us, and then decided to come back to us. We had Macy back after 3 or 4 days of her being lost. What an amazing feeling!!!

Zoe, our golden retriever, had been spotted running in and out of the woods in Ellsworth. It seems Macy and Zoe had gotten separated as soon as they got loose. Zoe was running back and forth from the woods behind NAPA, across routes 1 and 3, into the trails at Birds Acre and over to Bayside Road. So many people helped us with sightings of Zoe. She was running scared and would not come to anyone. It was harder to get Zoe to settle in one area and calm down. Again with the guidance of Shannon, we put ourselves in spots that Zoe could see and smell us, but Zoe still ran from us. We relocated many times with the calls of sightings of Zoe. She was still running from everybody. After 5-6 days of being lost, Zoe was finally spotted lying down in the woods behind the Ellsworth Tennis Center. It would take four more hours to finally rescue her. Shannon, once again, read the situation by observing Zoe's posture and guided us through the rescue. We again put ourselves in spots where Zoe could see and smell us. We brought Macy in, hoping Zoe would come to her. Zoe ran again. We relocated to a new sighting in the swampy woods. Zoe was getting more interested in us now, but she ran once again. For the first time, Zoe returned to where we were...slowly approached...stopped...watched us and repeated this as she crept closer. It took a long time for her to decide 'this is my family'. Zoe finally decided to reunite with Macy and trotted over for a well-deserved treat. The best feeling ever!!!! Thank you Shannon Wood Byers for your expert guidance.

Community members in the Hancock County and extended area are amazing! We have our two dogs home today due to your help. We are so grateful, as are Macy and Zoe!!!

Macy and Zoe have been through quite an ordeal and we are grateful to have them home safe and healthy this summer. We are extremely fortunate to have Shannon as not only a great animal control officer, but a great neighbor and all around good person!



*The Alvarado Family (front, left to right) Domingo, Sam and Christine with their wayward dogs Macy and Zoe stop for a photo with Lamoine Animal Control Officer Shannon Byers.*

## Court Rejects Pit Expansion Reconsideration

(Portland) - Maine's Business and Consumer Court which earlier in the year ordered the Board of Appeals to instruct the Planning Board to "un-issue" a Site Plan Review Permit to Harold MacQuinn, Inc. to expand an existing gravel pit has upheld its decision after two appeals by the property owner.

The matter has been before the town for nearly 7-years. Initially rejected by the Planning Board, the town entered a consent agreement to re-hear the application with different Planning Board members, but under the previous ordinance. The Planning Board again rejected the application, but the Board of Appeals ruled that both the Gravel and Site Plan Review permits should be issued and ordered the Planning Board to do so in the summer of 2018.

A citizens group, the Friends of Lamoine, appealed to the court that the Site Plan Review permit should not have been issued, and the court agreed, citing the area identified by the citizens group as Cousin's Hill as a geographical landmark. Attorneys for MacQuinn asked for a reconsideration from the Business and Consumer Court. The initial reconsideration was upheld the earlier decision, and a subsequent request for reconsideration was also denied. It's believed if there is any further appeal, it would go before the State Supreme Court.

## Heating Fuel Prices Locked In

(Lamoine) - The town and school departments, thanks to some quick work by Superintendent of Schools Katrina Kane, locked in a significant reduction in heating fuel costs for the upcoming winter. The price for both # 2 oil and propane dropped by 50-cents per gallon for 2019 & 2020. That's a 20% reduction in oil and a 37% reduction in propane.

## Town Paving Completed in July

(Lamoine) - A day after the Maine DOT put down a mile of thin pavement on Route 184 giving motorists a bit of a break on the badly damaged section of Lamoine Beach Road, the same paving crew from Vaughn Thibodeau II put down two layers of pavement on



*The paving crew applies the travel surface on Buttermilk Rd.*

Buttermilk Road. The town's paving consultant, Roger Picard, specifies a shim coat to fill in any surface blemishes such as pot holes and major cracks first, and then a travel surface to give the pavement significantly more strength to last several years.

Prior to paving, contractor Richard McMullen replaced and reset several culverts on the section of road that had created some frost heaves or were failing. That will also pay dividends in the future as the new pavement will not need to be excavated for that.

The bid price for paving came in lower than budgeted (unlike some state projects that had to be canceled). The final bill for the paving project was roughly \$67,000, which is \$18,000 lower than was budgeted for the fiscal year for major projects. The culvert replacement project was funded, partly, from the 2018/19 major roads budget with unexpended funds from the previous paving job. Any significant work needed prior to paving in 2020 may come from the remaining funds from this year's paving.

# State Rejects Proposed Comprehensive Plan

(Lamoine) - The headline sounds rather dire, and while accurate, it's both expected and should be easy to rectify. The letter from the State of Maine's Municipal Planning Assistance Program director found the plan incomplete, and there are recommendations from the Department of Agriculture and Department of Environmental Protection to include a few more pieces of information.

Comprehensive Planning Committee chair Fred Stocking called the

committee together in mid-June to go over the suggested changes to the plan. Committee members agreed to work on bringing the plan into compliance with state suggestions.

The committee will meet again at the end of July to report on progress. There is a deadline in October to get an updated plan submitted to the State of Maine for completeness and approval. It's believed the town meeting will have give a final acceptance to the revised plan.

# Those Who Gave All Honored @ Memorial

(Lamoine) - A good sized crowd gathered at the Lamoine Veterans' Memorial for a Memorial Day Ceremony. Charles Brann, who had only a few days earlier been part of the Honor Flight Delegation from Maine in Washington DC laid the memorial wreath crafted by retired Town Clerk Hubene Brodie. The Board of Selectmen issued a proclamation letter to Brann which was opened at "mail call" before the flight left. He stopped by the town hall and gave a nice replay of the events.

Young Betta Cahn read a very moving essay she wrote about the Vietnam War to those gathered for the event.



# Fire Department Call Volume Brisk

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's fire department responded to 16 calls to 9-1-1 for assistance during the period running from April through June. The October edition of the *Lamoine Quarterly* will show a significant call volume for the first part of July as well.

Some of the more serious calls included a vehicle fire on Marlboro Beach Road. A woman staying in an RV at her in-law's property looked out and saw smoke coming from the pickup truck parked just a

couple feet away from the camper, and called the fire department. While the trucks were en route, neighbor Ken Farkas noticed the commotion and came over and trained a garden hose on the hot truck and camper, keeping things cool. Flames did erupt from under the truck hood, and the small fire crew was able to extinguish those shortly after arrival. The fire department ended up using the rescue cutters to get the hood to open and finish extinguishing the fire.

The department helped Trenton's fire department close down Route 3 at the Route 204 intersection during a serious car crash in late May, diverting traffic back over Buttermilk Road. There were several brush fire calls, despite the very wet spring. One came after a landscaping company failed to completely extinguish a brush pile on Lamoine Beach Road. Another was reported from across the Jordan River in Trenton when a motorist spotted flames on the shore. It took quite a search by the fire department to find the scene which was an unpermitted debris burn. The property owner was cooperative with firefighters who trudged through the mud to get to the smoldering pile to water down the debris.

Lamoine provided mutual aid and station coverage to surrounding departments for a few out of town structure fires and to a fatal vehicle crash in Ellsworth. Personnel also assisted the Northern Light ambulance crews with helping lift patients from precarious situations in a gravel pit, and to assist with CPR on a man who collapsed late at night off Mud Creek Road.

Department members also completed annual required training.

# Fire Station has no Apartment

(Lamoine) - Selectmen assured some concerned citizens that no one is living at the Lamoine Fire Station, and there are no apartment facilities in the fire house. A pair of complaints came to the board's attention in the spring about personnel allegedly living at the fire station. A written inquiry claimed that an apartment was built on the second floor of the fire station to shelter victims after a fire.

The Selectmen explained to the complainant that the room on the 2nd story of the fire station is the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department's meeting and training room. The room contains tables and chairs and some appliances, but is not used as a living quarters. The Board noted that often there are people at the fire station, and that is of some comfort to have people in the building in the event of an emergency. Captain Michael Jordan, who spends a great deal of time at the station, says he doesn't sleep there unless requested by the chief in order to be ready during stormy weather. He says he is often helping to maintain the fire trucks or the building itself.

# Upgraded Lighting Installed in Fire Station

(Lamoine) - After upgrading the lighting at the Lamoine Town Hall, new lights are now in place at the Lamoine Fire Station, and that should cut electrical costs there as well. The town took advantage of the Efficiency Maine program which replaced older fluorescent fixtures with new LED lighting fixtures. The project at the Lamoine Fire Station was far more extensive than the town hall project. The total cost to change out the lighting was close to \$5,000, but the program required the town to pay for only 25% of the cost, or nearly \$1,250.

Gilman Electric supplied the LED lighting fixtures and electrician Arthur Ashmore installed the new lights (and carried off the older, inefficient lights). Fire department members noticed right away that the new lighting, which brighter, is lighter, but less harsh on the eyes. The first power bill following installation showed an electric use reduction.

# Ladder Truck Repaired

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's Ladder 404 is back in service after a major component in the ladder control system started to fail. Engineers started hearing a grinding sound while operating the ladder and discovered a very expensive part (\$16,500) beneath the ladder turntable had worn out. Fire Chief Skip Smith reported to Selectmen that the unanticipated repair would exceed the department's budget for 2018/19. A special town meeting held on June 20th drew only 6 voters (four Selectmen, the Administrative Assistant, and one other) and approved a surplus appropriation.

# Grange Parking Area Gets New Cover

(Lamoine) - The parking area next to the Lamoine Grange Hall can be a soupy mess after the snow melts. A couple of years ago, tow trucks had to be called in when cars of those attending a candidates' night got stuck.

Lamoine Community Arts asked Selectmen for help with repairing the parking area. The Community Arts group has a use agreement with the Grange which owns the building.

Selectmen suggested that the better way to handle this would be to have the property owner (The Grange) suggest to the fire department that a project would help with access to the fire hydrant located under part of the parking area.

Work has begun on replacing the mud making dirt with a better parking surface dirt, and sloping the parking area to promote better drainage. Chief Smith reports funds raised by the Community Arts Group should be sufficient at this time.



## Ready, Set, Go! - Lamoine 150! Starts in September

By Cynthia Donaldson

The Lamoine 150 committee is working hard as the start of our 150<sup>th</sup> celebratory year

nears. Almost three years of planning has resulted in a series of monthly activities spanning an entire year, from September 2019 through August 2020. We begin in September with two events:

### **Saturday, September 21 – Coastal Clean-Up**

The Conservation Commission invites the community to pitch in and help clean up our beautiful shoreline. We'll share specifics on how to join the effort on our Facebook page and there will be publicity from the Conservation Commission.

### **Saturday, September 28 Scavenger Hunt**

Pick up clues at the Lamoine Consolidated School between 9 and 10 AM. Then travel around Lamoine finding the chosen locations and taking a selfie of your "team"/family/yourself at that spot. Gather back at the school at 3:00 to share pictures. Certificates will be awarded and snacks will be served. And in October, we'll sponsor two more:

### **Saturday, October 5 – Robin's Run Road Race, Community Barbeque, & Scavenger Hunt**

Road Race with staggered starts for runners, walkers, and kids will start at 9:00 at the school. Preschool "Small Fry Scuttle" run is scheduled for 10:00. Details and registration forms will be available on the town's website and the Lamoine 150 Facebook page.

Community Barbeque, from 11-1:00 sponsored by the Lamoine Fire

Department and The Lamoine Baptist Church at the fire house. Come enjoy good food and good times with your neighbors.

Parks Commission Scavenger Hunt after the barbeque

### **Wednesday, October 23 – "Celebrating Our Story"**

The first of our monthly presentations celebrating our community, this month's topic is "The Road to Incorporation in 1870". It's the story of Lamoine's birth as a town and will be presented by the 150 Writers' Group at 6:30 pm at the Grange.

For more information about coming events check our Lamoine 150 Facebook page, find us on YouTube, look for notices at the town hall and watch your mailbox for quarterly schedules.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

We'll need help with many of our activities throughout the year. Right now we're particularly looking for volunteers to help with the race and community barbeque. Please contact Cynthia Donaldson ([cgdonaldson@myfairpoint.net](mailto:cgdonaldson@myfairpoint.net)) or Jo Cooper ([jcooper@friendsinactionellsworth.org](mailto:jcooper@friendsinactionellsworth.org)) if you would be interested in helping.

## Bloomfield Park Gets a Cleanup

(Lamoine) - Bloomfield Park got a spring cleaning thanks to members and families of Lamoine Girl Scout Troop 422 and the Lamoine Parks Commission. Lamoine can send a big thanks to the hearty crew who showed up on a sunny Sunday April 28 to cut up blowdowns, collect a few forgotten sneakers, and spruce up the woods, beach and picnic area. Rakes, a wheelbarrow, a chainsaw and a nice crew of young and seasoned folks has the town park on Blunts Pond ready for the busy season ahead. Thanks especially to Kasey Jordan and Lily Philbrook and Ivan Andros for their help and community service.



*The Cleanup Crew (from left) Richard Andros, Cathi Goebel, Lilly Philbrook, Maggie Andros, Ivan Adros, Lori Jordan and in front, Casey Jordan (Georgianna Pulver photo)*

## Lamoine's Little Children Play Structure Project

By Cynthia Donaldson

(Lamoine) With less than a year to go, the Lamoine's Little Children Committee is working hard to raise funds to install a nautically themed play structure at Lamoine Beach in the summer of 2020 – just in time to be part of the culminating Lamoine 150 celebrations.

We envision three pieces for the play space which will be up from the beach very near the picnic tables. They will include 2 bouncing lobsters and a bouncy "trawler" designed to encourage imaginative play. All the pieces are geared toward children less than 6 years of age and comply with rigorous safety standards.

To date we have raised a little over \$3500, a figure which includes a generous pledge of \$1000 from the Marlboro Yacht Club, and donations from many friends of Lamoine's very young children and their families. We plan to sell "Lamoine 150 logo" baseball caps sized for children and adults. We hope to be close to our \$10,000 goal by the end of September 2019. Contribution checks should be made payable to our fiscal agent Special Children's Friends - noting Lamoine play structure in the memo line - and mailed to SCF at 78 Union St., Ellsworth). We will need help setting and grounding the structure next spring and contributions of people power will be welcomed then.

## Adopt-A-Road Seeks More Volunteers

(Lamoine) - If you get a call or an e-mail from Adopt-A-Highway coordinator Georgia Munsell, it's OK. She's looking for folks to fill empty road slots to pick up roadside litter. Retirements, address changes and other factors open up available litter pickup areas, and Georgia does a marvelous job coordinating the program.

The volunteer corps reports on what areas they've picked up and how much trash they get a couple of times a year. If you are interested in helping out, you can send an e-mail directly to Georgia (it's the easiest way to reach her): [munsells@gmail.com](mailto:munsells@gmail.com) or contact the town office by phone (207-667-2242) or email ([town@lamoine-me.gov](mailto:town@lamoine-me.gov)).



*Adopt-A-Highway coordinator Georgia Munsell and her neighbor Herb Watson display the "haul" from the Mud Creek Road area they pick up*

## No Smoking Signs Approved

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's three town maintained parks as well as the public buildings will soon sport new no smoking signs. Healthy Acadia is manufacturing the signs at no cost to the community following adoption of an updated smoking policy by the Board of Selectmen. The building signs will be green in color, the park signs the standard brown background.



## Community Center Study Committee Update

By Larissa Thomas

(Lamoine) - The Community Center Feasibility Study Committee, tasked with exploring the possibility of a community center and what it might entail, has circulated a Needs Assessment for organizations in town and has been analyzing the responses. The next step in the Study Committee's data gathering will be the circulation of a survey for individual town residents. Please look for a notice about this survey in your tax bill; a notice will also appear on the Town website and Facebook page. The Study Committee anticipates launching the survey online in August, and paper copies will be available for those who prefer that format on request. It is critical that we receive input from as many town residents as possible so that the Study Committee understands the range of needs that might be served by a community center, the general level of support for such a facility, and what people would like to see if a community center were to be established. The Study Committee's meetings are open to the public and we always welcome ideas and opinions; check the town website for the date of the next meeting. We look forward to hearing from all of our fellow townspeople as we consider whether a community center is needed and if so, how it might best serve the people of Lamoine.

## Town Officials Appointed, Thanked

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen reappointed all of the volunteer board and committee members whose terms expired on June 30th who indicated they wished to continue serving. Only a couple decided to end their board service, and Selectmen signed certificates honoring **Doug Stewart** for his service on the Conservation Commission and **Marion McDevitt** who served for many years on Lamoine's Budget Committee.

The Selectmen have appointed **John Robichaud** as an alternate on the Conservation Commission, filling **Diane Nicholls's** seat as she becomes a full member, replacing Stewart. McDevitt's vacancy on the Budget Committee has yet to be filled, either by moving an alternate member up to the full seat and replacing that slot, or by direct appointment. Anyone interested in serving on the Budget Committee should contact the town hall.

Selectmen also accepted the resignation of Allison Howaniec from the Recreation Committee after she found it difficult to serve due to work commitments. Named to the Recreation Committee is **Ashley Mawhinney** whose family have been enthusiastic participants. The Rec Committee could use one more member. If interested, contact Nicole Chan or the town hall. Mrs. Chan says Rec Committee members, in addition to setting up programs and policy, are active participants in running various programs, so parents of participants would be ideally suited for appointment



*The Lamoine Consolidated School Softball team finished an undefeated season with a win over the Mountain View School of Sullivan to win their league championship. Not pictured is assistant coach Bernie Johnson.*

## Community Arts News

By Carol Mason

### Lamoine Community Arts (LCA)

**Spring Production:** "Same Time Next Year" a Bernard Slade production was a great success again this year. The "Spring Reader's Theatre" production was Directed by Merle Bragdon and Co-Directed by Svetlana Malinina. Honeybee Heyman and David Schick performed the two-person production, with Carol Mason as Narrator. Cliff Vaux handled the lights and sound. It takes many volunteers to put on a production so for all who helped out, we thank you, and for all who wish to join us in the fall, there are many opportunities to be part of this fun and engaging organization.

**The Spring Yard Sale** was a huge success with many thanks going to Barbara Bland and Lolly Lovett along with many others who worked so hard to make it a success again this year. A reminder to all when thinking about "spring cleaning" in 2020 please remember to save those valuable "collectables" for LCA's Spring Yard Sale. Watch the website ([www.lamoinearts.org](http://www.lamoinearts.org)) for more information.

**The Lamoine Grange has new siding,** completed this past month with the tremendous help of Hammond Lumber for their generous donation and to Brian Hayward and the crew from KMH Carpentry for completing the installation. Many thanks also to Tom St. Claire without which none of this would have happened as well as many LCA volunteers. Additional work on the Grange is planned for summer and fall with the addition of a lower level bathroom and a new parking lot; a project being undertaken by Jay Fowler and company. Anyone wishing to contribute

to Grange Renovation Project may send a check to: Lamoine Community Arts, attention; Fred Stocking, Treasurer, 30 Berry Cove Road, Lamoine, ME 04605. All contributions are tax deductible. Please indicate "Grange Renovation Project" in the memo. For information on Grange rentals please contact Anne Stocking at 667-6564.

**Open Mic:** a great evening was had by friends and neighbors at the Grange on June 22. It was an evening of music, song, poetry, skits, readings and more. Doors opened at 6:30, admission was free and the show started at 7 pm. Donations were appreciated. "Open Mic" is a forum whereby acoustical musicians, singers, songwriters, and poets, those who love to read poetry or prose, actors and comics can have their 15 minutes of fame. Come join us in September for another fun evening of spontaneity, and improvisational theatre. All ages are welcome. The next "Open Mic" will be held on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Dance Workshops and Performance,** July 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, with a performance on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Dancers will be Elizabeth Kenn and Meghan Fredericks. For more information please call 667-4441.

**LCA Fall Performance:** mark your calendars for Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, and Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, Nov. 2nd at 7 pm, with a Sunday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> matinee at 3 pm. LCA is proud to bring you a live theatre presentation of "The Odd Couple" (Female Version) by Neil Simon, Directed by Wynne Guglielmo and Co-directed by Carol Duffy. Check the LCA website; [www.lamoinearts.org](http://www.lamoinearts.org) or Facebook for more information.

## Congrats to Honor Graduates

(Lamoine) - A very small graduating class for 2019 from Lamoine saw just two graduate with honors from high school this year. Selectmen honored **Ross Fowler** and **Isaac Weaver** who both graduated from MDI High School in Bar Harbor in June. Ellsworth High School had no graduating class members from Lamoine for the first time in recent memory.

## Scholarships Awarded

(Lamoine) - Six college students from Lamoine will benefit significantly from the scholarship funds available from the Allan & Leurene Scholarship fund. The Maine Community Foundation made \$23,880 available, and all applicants were funded at an amount of \$3,980 this years. Students will see payments to their college during their 2nd semester.

July 2019—Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1-5:30 Parks Cmsn.	2	3	4-Town Hall Closed (Independence Day)	5	6-Town Office Open 8-12
7	8	9	10-6PM DMR in Lamoine @ School	11-3:30 PM Lamoine 150! 6:30 PM Appeals Board 7PM Selectmen	12	13
14	15-6:30 PM Community Center Study Cmte	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27-Town Office Open 8-12
28	29	30	31-6:30 PM Comp Plan Cmte			

August 2019-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1-7PM Selectmen	2-Fire Dept. Auction 5PM @ School	3-Town Office Open 8-12
4	5-7PM Planning Board	6-6:30 PM Board of Appeals	7-Closed @ Lunch	8-Closed @ Lunch	9– Closed @ Lunch	10
11	12-Closed @ Lunch	13	14-7PM Conservation Cmsn.	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31-Town Office Open 8-12 1st Half Taxes Due

September 2019-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2-Town Hall Closed (Labor Day)	3	4	5-7PM Selectmen	6	7-Town Office Open 8-12
8	9-7PM Planning Board	10	11-7PM Conservation Cmsn.	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19-7PM Selectmen	20	21
22	23	24	25-6:30 PM Appeals Board	26	27	28-Town Office Open 8-12
29	30					

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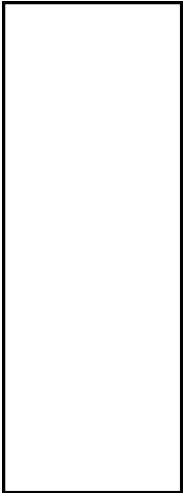
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And Much, Much More!



Town of Lamoine  
606 Douglas Highway  
Lamoine, ME 04605